

**Women's Policy Coalition Meeting**  
**Community Service Building Corporation, Room 112**  
**100 W 10th St., Wilmington, DE 19801**

**March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**11:30 to 12:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Stella Harrison (OWAA), Rebecca Cotto (YWCA), Sarah Best (Planned Parenthood of Delaware), Marian Palley (Delaware Commission for Women), Melanie Ross Levin (OWAA), Carling Ryan (OWAA), Katherine Caudle (AFSCME Council 81), Linda Barnett (AAUW), Suzanne Moore (Delaware ERANow)

**The meeting began at 11:32 a.m.**

**AAUW Event Recap + Email Activities for Distribution to List**

Marian opened the meeting and offered the floor to the people who hosted the AAUW panel on pay equity. Becca Cotto spoke about the event and the great turnout, and mentioned that Delaware is a leader in pay equity.

Next, Melanie Ross Levin spoke about the listserv, which will have 30-40 members, that we can use to share events and information.

**Speed Meeting Event Update**

Melanie Ross Levin then spoke about the speed networking event. Sen. Poore, Sen. Cloutier, Rep. Griffith, Rep. Bolden, Sen. Delcollo, Rep. Chukwuocha, Rep. Minor Brown, Rep. Dorsey Walker, and Sarah Wootten were all confirmed attendees. Each group will be given 5 minutes with each of the legislators. Melanie Ross Levin mentioned that every legislator was invited.

**Legislative Updates**

Marian then spoke about the SB 21 and SB 19 hearings from March 6<sup>th</sup>. Carling spoke to the nature of bills getting out of committee. Melanie Ross Levin talked more about SB 19 and SB 21, mentioning that OWAA spoke at the hearings on their unconstitutionality, and that their goal as an office is to be present at more hearings.

Melanie Ross Levin also discussed SB 17, relating to genetic testing and insurance. Kat Caudle then discussed SB 8, a collective bargaining bill. She mentioned that Delaware is the only state where state employees are not allowed to bargain for their wages, the legislature would still have final control over wages. She mentioned this is an important issue for women because 60% of state workers in Delaware are women. Kat also spoke about HB 47, the minimum wage bill that would eliminate the youth and training wage and equally apply the minimum wage to everyone.

### **Opportunity for Co-sponsorship of Salary Negotiation Trainings**

Melanie Ross Levin then spoke about the 4 salary negotiation workshops that OWAA is sponsoring. Co-sponsorship opportunities are still available and would require an organization to staff the event and bring snacks. There is also an option to observe the training to possibly become a trainer. The sessions hold 40-60 people with a hard stop at 60 people. Melanie Ross Levin offered to have Linda and Penny help facilitate.

### **Conclusions and Next Steps**

Melanie Ross Levin closed the meeting by suggesting a guest speaker for the next meeting to discuss 501 c3 advocacy and understanding legal limits. The next meeting will be April 8<sup>th</sup>.

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Sarah Best